

City of Asheville
Fire Marshal's Office
PROCEDURE TO OBTAIN A PERMIT FOR AN
OUTDOOR PYROTECHNIC DISPLAY

The City of Asheville requires a permit for the use and handling of fireworks. The provisions of NFPA 1123 shall also be met. **The Fireworks Company conducting the display is responsible for obtaining the operational permit for pyrotechnic display.**

Permit Applications, which typically take 7-10 business days to process, are available at the One Stop Development Center located at:

Building Safety Department
161 S. Charlotte St.
P.O. Box 7148, Asheville, NC
Phone: (828) 259-5846

Permit Requirements:

Three (3) sets of documents must be submitted for approval. An inspection shall be required before the pyrotechnic display. The following is a list of requirements:

1. The site plan shall show:
 - The location of nearest fire hydrant.
 - The location and distance of all buildings and structures near the display site (discharge site and fallout area).
 - The location and distance to surrounding streets. (street closure plans and permits).
 - The location and means provided for fire extinguishment.
 - The location and distance to spectators.
2. Provide a shot list including quantity, type, size and description of materials being used.
3. Description of ignition system being used.
4. Date and time of show.
5. Description of security at display site as well as spectator site.
6. Provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance.
7. A copy of the display operators ATF license.
8. A list of display operators and their experience.
9. Provide Property owner and consent information.
10. A copy of the site emergency plan.
11. Location shall have a current periodic approved Fire inspection.
12. Written approval from the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners must be obtained.

**Please call (828) 259-5441
at least 48 hours in advance to request an Inspection.**

Additional information:

- ☐ All spectators, vehicles, and readily combustible materials are located outside the fallout zone.
- ☐ No inhabited buildings are located inside the fallout area.
- ☐ Fire Protection and standby fire engine has been arranged.
- ☐ Street closure permits have been obtained.
- ☐ Display mortars separation distance from audience must be at least 70 feet for every inch of the largest diameter mortar.
- ☐ Separation distances will be doubled for the following occupancies: hospitals, health care facilities, detention centers, and flammable or explosive materials.
- ☐ Upon delivery, fireworks must be properly stored and must be attended at all times.
- ☐ There are no overhead obstructions in the immediate area of mortars or within 25 feet of the shell trajectory.
- ☐ Ground displays are at least 75 feet from spectators and vehicles.
- ☐ There must be no smoking within 50 feet of any display or pyrotechnic materials.
- ☐ There will be no discharge of fireworks within 100 feet of a tent or canvas.
- ☐ Mortars over 6 inches must NOT be fired manually.
- ☐ Mortars must be securely held in place by burial to at least $\frac{3}{4}$ their length or in above ground in strong and well secured and stabilized racks or mortar troughs.
- ☐ If mortars are to be reloaded during the display, shells must be stored in ready boxes and kept at least 25 feet upwind of the mortars.
- ☐ Security must be provided.
- ☐ Operators shall be at least 21 years of age, assistants shall be at least 18 years of age. Proof of age is required.
- ☐ There must be adequate crowd control monitors.
- ☐ There will be no discharge of fireworks under certain weather conditions such as high winds or lightning.
- ☐ Following the display, all dud shells and components must be located and removed. A second search, at first light on the day after the display may be required.